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On April 1, 1907, while the guest of Mr. William Loundes at Cat Island, South Carolina, I learned that a pair of these birds had for years inhabited a disused rice mill on his plantation. Climbing to the second floor of the building we saw a pair of Barn Owls fly out of a window, the panes of which were broken. The nest was soon located in a covered portion of the machinery. It contained four eggs. On May 20, I again visited the mill, and both old birds flew out as before. In the nest was one young owl apparently about old enough to fly. There were no eggs in the nest and nothing was seen of any other young birds. On January 23, 1908, I examined the mill thoroughly but no nest could be found and only one Barn Owl was seen. — T. GILBERT PEARSON, *Greensboro, N. C.*

Curious Fatality among Chimney Swifts.— I am indebted to Dr. O. P. Maxson, Waukegan, Ill., for information regarding the destruction of a large number of Swifts, in one of the chimneys of his house during a cold rain storm. Dr. Maxson writes under date of May 16, 1908, as follows:—

"On the 13th May there was a large flight of Chimney Swifts during a steady rain storm. One of my daughters who was out in the yard noticed the Swifts flying down into the chimney with which the furnace flue is connected, and on going into the basement we found it full of coal gas. Supposing something was wrong with the draft we investigated and then heard the birds chirping and a fluttering of wings in the chimney. There is a door in the furnace flue, about 7 × 18 inches, used for opening when the furnace is shut off, and through this my son and a companion reached in and took the birds out from the chimney. Some were dead, others only stupified from the effects of the heat and coal gas, while many were able to fly as soon as liberated. At first the chimney, which has a large tile-lined flue, was so obstructed by the birds as to choke the draft, and for more than an hour the boys were busy in taking out the swifts which had accumulated and were still flying in, while three of the ladies of my family were receiving them and carrying them to the open windows of the basement. There being so many at work and in such haste to get the birds into the fresh air that they might revive as many as possible, they gave up any attempt to keep count of their numbers. There were, however, one hundred and five dead and probably five times that number that revived sufficiently to enable them to fly off, when liberated. After the numbers had largely decreased in flying down the chimney and the boys had abandoned their work, I went to the flue and extricated sixty-six more, of which eight were so injured by the heat that I had to kill them. This chimney was heated by the furnace fire, but another chimney connected with the kitchen range had not been used by the birds and none were found in the ash pit at the base of it. The flight lasted from the middle of the afternoon until evening."

While it is well known that these Swifts congregate and roost in unused chimneys, particularly in the fall, prior to the migration, I think it is an

unusual occurrence for them to occupy a chimney still in use and in such numbers so early in the season. The fact that this particular chimney was one of modern construction and tile-lined, may account for the birds not being able readily to roost against the sides, and the cause of their having accumulated in a mass at its base.— RUTHVEN DEANE, *Chicago, Ill.*

The Horned Lark in Georgia.— A specimen taken from a flock of Horned Larks, January 20, 1893, at Kirkwood, Ga., by Mr. R. W. Smith has been identified at the Biological Survey as *Otocoris alpestris alpestris*, while a specimen taken in Clayton County, Ga., November 30, 1907, proves to be *Otocoris alpestris praticola*. Thus both these forms are for the first time included in the fauna of Georgia.— WELLS W. COOKE, *Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

Clarke's Nutcracker from Wisconsin.— On page 222 of the April issue of 'The Auk,' Mr. Widmann mentions an occurrence of *Nucifraga columbiana* in Crittenden Co., Ark., as being "the farthest eastern occurrence of the species."

In 'The Birds of Wisconsin' by L. Kumlien and N. Hollister (Bull. Wis. Nat. Hist. Soc., Vol. III, p. 86), is a notice of this species having been taken on the outskirts of the city of Milwaukee in the late fall of 1875. This carries the eastern record much beyond Arkansas.— HENRY L. WARD, *Milwaukee, Wis.*

Red Crossbills, and Some Other Birds in Lower Delaware.— On May 18, 1908, I shot an adult male, an adult female and a juv. of this species from a flock of 9 to 12 that were feeding in a pine grove close back of the village of Rehoboth, within one quarter mile of the ocean and about six miles south of Cape Henlopen. The only other record I have of this bird in Delaware is for a single bird, observed by Dr. Wm. E. Hughes, Philadelphia, Pa., near Lewes — six miles north of Rehoboth, and curiously enough that date was May 19, 1895. The dates and locality are certainly unusual for this species. Cardinals and Carolina Wrens were in full song in this same grove, an Acadian Flycatcher was noted close at hand, two Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were "bizzing" in the tree-tops, and on the 16th of May I shot a fine male Blue Grosbeak about two miles inland.— C. J. PENNOCK, *Kennett Square, Pa.*

The Nelson Sparrow in Georgia and Florida.— The Nelson Sparrow (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) was taken in 1902 by Mr. Arthur H. Helme on Cumberland Island, Ga.— the first record for the State. During the years 1905 and 1906, Mr. W. W. Worthington took the species at various places on the coast of northeastern Florida, as far south as Titusville, and the